Export of sandal wood

458. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the volume of sandal wood exported during the last five years;

(b) the details of foreign exchange earned during the above said period;

(c) whether it is a fact that India lost its position as a leading exporter of sandal wood;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) As per the Export Import Policy of Government of India, export of sandal wood is prohibited, since 1992.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Industrial projects in Himachal Pradesh

459. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of industrial projects from Himachal Pradesh pending for approval by Government during the year 2001-2002 along with the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of cost of each of such project; and

(c) by when these projects will be cleared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) No Industrial License application for the State of Himachal Pradesh is pending for approval of the Central Government as on 1.11.2002.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Financial assistance to States

460. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allocated a sum of Rs. 330 crore for assistance to States for development of infrastructure for exports and other allied activities;

(b) the quantum of money which has been actually released out of Rs. 330 crore allocated for the current year under this programme;

(c) the names of the States that received the assistance State-wise; and

(d) the details of projects which have been initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Out of this allocation, an amount of Rs. 155.92 Cr. has been actually released till 15.11.2002-Rs. 128.5 Cr. to the States and Rs. 27.42Cr. to Central agencies. The names of the States along with the amount of assistance received as their first instalment for 2002-03 is given below. All the States except Arunachal Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Union Territory of Chandigarh, Delhi, Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, Nagaland and Sikkim have already projects under going under the erstwhile Critical Infrastructure Balance Scheme (CIB) which stands merged with the new Assistance to States for Development of Export Infrastructure and other activities (ASIDE). Funds released under ASIDE would be used to complete the ongoing projects also. As per ASIDE Scheme the State Government are required to constitute State Level Export Promotion Committee under their Chief Secretary to scrutinize and approve fresh projects for their States from April, 2002. Assam, Delhi, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal have constituted their State Level Export Promotion Committee and have approved projects in their States.

Sl. No.	Name of State	Amount released As just instalment Under ASIDE (Rs. in Crore)	Status of SLEPC
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.00	Constituted
2.	Bihar	3.00	
3.	Chhattisgarh	2.00	

1	2	3	4
4.	Goa	3.00	Constituted
5.	Gujarat	7.00	Constituted
6.	Haryana	3.00	Constituted
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3.50	Constituted
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.00	
9.	Jharkhand	2.00	
10.	Karnataka	9.00	Constituted
11.	Kerala	5.50	Constituted
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5.00	Constituted
13.	Maharashtra	16.00	Constituted
14.	Orissa	4.50	
15.	Punjab	4.50	
16.	Rajasthan	6.00	Constituted
17.	Tamil Nadu	14.00	Constituted
18.	Uttaranchal	2.00	
19.	Uttar Pradesh	10.00	Constituted
20.	West Bengal	5.00	Constituted
21.	Andaman & Nicobar	1.00	
22.	Chandigarh	1.00	
23.	Daman & Diu	1.50	
24.	Delhi	1.00	Constituted
25.	Lakshadweep	1.00	Constituted
26.	Pondicherry	1.50	
27.	Assam	2.00	Constituted
28.	Manipur	1.00	Constituted
29.	Meghalaya	1.00	Constituted
30.	Mizoram	1.00	Constituted

1	2	3	4
31.	Nagaland	.50	Constituted
32.	Sikkim	.50	
33.	Tripura	1.50	Constituted
	TOTAL :	128.5	

Revival of Cement Industry

461. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cement plants/factories functioning in the country, State-wise, particularly in Gujarat;

(b) the present average production capacity of these plants/factories;

(c) the number of plants/factories, out of these, which have been closed and those on the verge of closure alongwith the reasons for closure of those plants/factories; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for revival of such plants/ factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) and (b) There are 124 large cement plants functioning in the country. The details of average production capacity of these plants is given in the Annexure. (*See* Appendix 197 Annexure No. 5)

(c) Seventeen large cement plants are reported to be not in production due to various reasons such as technological obsolescence and economic non-viability.

(d) The Government has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units including those reported on the verge of closure. These, *inter-alia*, include guidelines of Reserve Bank of India to Banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units and setting up of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act.